

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Donald B. Appleby et al. : Group Art Unit: 1211
Serial No.: 08/360,184 : Examiner: E. White
Filed: December 20, 1994 :
For: **Polyol Polyester Synthesis**

DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.608 OF ROBERT B. AYLOR

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

I, ROBERT B. AYLOR, declare that:

1. I am currently employed by the assignee of the present application, The Procter & Gamble Company, and work in its Patent Division as a Senior Patent Counsel. I have been working for The Procter & Gamble Company in its Patent Division (hereinafter "the Patent Division") continuously since February 1960.

2. While working in the Patent Division, I have been responsible for the preparation and filing of numerous patent applications. In general, an invention is first disclosed to the Patent Division in a Development Record which is typically compiled by a person involved with development of the subject invention. The Development Record is assigned to a patent counsel

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates generally to systems and methods for controlling access to an area. More particularly, the present invention relates to a system and associated method for controlling access to a designated area having a security device 5 to control access thereto.

Frequently, homeowners need to be personally present at their homes for service personnel. For example, homeowners need be present at their homes to receive delivered packages. In many situations, however, homeowners need to attend to other matters and may not personally receive packages at their homes.

10 If a homeowner cannot be present to receive a package, a delivery person may opt to leave the package outside the home. But this option raises a theft concern. Providing the delivery person a home key is another option. This option, however, raises a security concern because of the ease of key copying. Also, the delivery person with the home key has access to the home indefinitely.

15 The security concern associated with an unattended package delivery exists not only at homes but also at other locations, such as a lock box or a storage room. Likewise, a similar security concern exists when a package needs to be picked up from an unattended location or when a repair service needs to be performed at an unattended location.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

20 Accordingly, the present invention is directed to a system and method for controlling access to a designated area that obviate one or more of the limitations and

disadvantages of prior art systems and methods. The advantages and purposes of the invention will be set forth in part in the description which follows, and in part will be obvious from the description, or may be learned by practice of the invention. The advantages and purposes of the invention will be realized and attained by the elements and combinations particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

5 To attain the advantages and in accordance with the purposes of the invention, as embodied and broadly described herein, the invention is directed to a system for controlling access to a designated area. The designated area has a security device to control access thereto. The system includes a programmable unit, a programming unit, a programmable tag, and a validation system. The programmable unit generates a first and second key for each access to the designated area. The programming unit generates an access key using the first key. The programmable tag stores the access key. The validation system includes a control unit, a memory, and a communication device. The control unit generates a validation key using the second key. The memory stores the validation key. The communication device establishes a data communication with the programmable tag to receive the access key therefrom. The control unit compares the access key and the validation key and causes the security device to allow access to the designated area if the access key matches the validation key.

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20 In another aspect, the invention is directed to a method for controlling access to a designated area. The designated area has a security device to control access thereto. The method steps includes: generating a first and second key for each access to the designated area; using the first key, generating an access key; using the second key, generating a validation key; and comparing the access key and the validation key and

published European application based on either the '371 European Application the '931 European Application, or the '336 European Application.

9. I did not become aware of the published European A1 Publication No. 383,404 A1 until subsequent to its August 22, 1990 publication date, which was well after I began preparing the Appleby et al Application and after the drafts were sent to Mr. Bruno on or about July 3, 1990 and Mr. Corrigan on or about July 18, 1990.

10. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the present application or any patent issued thereon.

Respectfully submitted,

By: Robert B. Aylor
Robert B. Aylor

Date: 26 March 1999

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